

# IN PURSUIT OF FREEDOM

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and to the Believers –  
But the munāfiqīn know not.”  
[Al-Munāfiqūn: 8]

*Shaykh Husayn ibn Mahmūd*  
(May Allāh preserve him)

At-Tibyān Publications

# *In Pursuit of Freedom*

## A True Story

By *Shaykh* Husayn ibn Mahmūd  
(May Allāh preserve him)

***“And to Allāh belongs all ‘Izzah, and to His Messenger, and to the Believers –  
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The Communist Party had occupied the reigns of the government in Afghānistān... The youth of the Afghānī awakening stood up to fight the apostate Communist regime, waging a Jihād led by the ‘*Ulamā*, students of ‘*Ilm* (i.e. “*madrasah* students”), and the general Muslim populace in that land... After years of the *Jihād* unnoticed by the Islāmic *Ummah*, Allāh brought out for this Jihād a man<sup>1</sup>, who transformed – with the Grace of Allāh – this Jihād of a group of sincere people against an apostate regime: into the Jihād of Islām against *kufr*... and then, a Jihād of miracles, a Jihād of dignity and loftiness...

For the first time after ages and eras, a door to Jihād was opened, and shook the *Ummah* from slumber, and awoke it, much like how swiftly an unmoving sea changes into violent waves, and into a stormy hurricane, to drop the youth of the *Ummah* upon the land of Afghānistān, in response to the Divine Call:

***“And if they seek help from you for the Dīn, then you must help.”*** [*Al-Anfāl*: 72]

Thus the *Ummah* was on the brink of a new era, and *Khurāsān* was the rendezvous of the “*Muhājirīn* and *Ansār*”...

Youth who were in the prime of their life, carried their souls upon their palms, seeking bounty from Allāh and His Pleasure... The finest of the youth of the Islāmic *Ummah*... nay, the finest of its men... left in the Path of Allāh, to make the apostates and the Soviets taste the colours of torment and the many types of humiliation and defeat, in a brave and ferocious battle, resembling a Divine Miracle... Verily, it was a miracle of the Prophet of this *Ummah*, who taught his followers the meaning of *Tawakkul* (faithful reliance) upon Allāh...

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<sup>1</sup> **Trans. Note:** Referring to the *Mujaddid* of Jihād in this era, the martyred *Shaykh*, ‘Abdullāh ‘Azzām, may Allāh have mercy upon him.

Three hundred years while the *Ummah* succumbed under the military and psychological occupation of the Crusaders and the Jews, both directly and indirectly (at the hands of the *munāfiqīn* from amongst the rulers)... till mankind had lost all hope of a change, and some ignorant people assumed that the Islāmic *Ummah* had died without any return... And then all of a sudden, the Lord of ‘*Izzah* (Honour, Glory, Pride, Dignity, Power, Grandeur, Majesty) decreed for this *Ummah* this Blessed Jihād – which again, some ignorant people thought it to be just another catastrophe from amongst the many catastrophes which had befallen the *Ummah*...

Yes! Thus did the Afghānī Jihād bring to life the *Ummah* once again...

Self-defeatism... inferiority... laziness... submissiveness... These were the prominent characteristics within the youth of the *Ummah* of Muhammad prior to the First Afghānī Jihād!

Men departed and made *Hijrah* from far distant lands, from Egypt, Ash-Shām, ‘Irāq, North Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Turkistan – nay, even from Europe and America: they all came to that pure land, not bothered by whether or not they had enough men or if they had enough weaponry; not caring about what their present situation was, nor about what could happen to them in the future!! All that they had to carry with them – was *Yaqīn* (firm certainty) in the Promise of Allāh, and complete *Tawakkul* (reliance) upon Him...

Honour did not exist, and pride was buried under the shackles of corruption, confusion, and it was lost due to the distancing away from the Divine Methodology – the same methodology which the rulers attempted to bury, at the demand of the Crusaders... with the condition that their thrones are left untouched...

Neither the *kuffār* nor the *munāfiqīn* could comprehend the true extent of this Jihād, nor what it was setting off and the affect it was having upon the *Ummah*. For three hundred years the *kuffār* attempted to kill the honour of the *Ummah*, by making it lose confidence in itself, by implanting the belief of hopelessness into the hearts of its sons – and how successful indeed they were in planting it!!

America needed to defeat the U.S.S.R. in Afghānistān; so it called upon its slaves (from amongst the apostate *Tawāghūt* regimes) to open the doors for the youth of the *Ummah* to march forth to Afghānistān... Little did America know – at the time – that they were digging their own graves! They thought that the *Ummah* is naïve; that they would show gratitude to them due to the support they gave them - by lifting away their hands, and not getting involved - in confronting the Communism which was so hateful of Islām...

But Allāh had decreed to bring forth a genius from amongst the geniuses of the *Ummah*, to render fruitless all of their conspiracies, coalitions, and schemes. Thus Allāh opened, at his hands, the eyes and heart of the *Ummah*... his *khutbahs* and lectures and books were like stirring cyclones and alarm clocks waking up the heedlessly sleeping sons of Islām.

In Afghānistān, the men of this *Ummah* learned the meaning of manhood... they learned the reality of the lost honour... they learned the meaning of ‘*Izzah*’<sup>2</sup>. A handful of men brought down the mightiest human force on the face of the earth, with the Permission of Allāh – they destroyed the Soviet Union in a few years, making it a mere memory in the distant past.

Rockets... missiles... jets... tanks... bullets... machine guns... lofty mountains... caves... freezing... scorching... attack and retreat... tactics and strategies... mines... explosives... things which were meaningless previously to the *Ummah* for such a long period of time! A life, in which these men finally learned the true meaning of “freedom”. The same “freedom” which those who sit back from Jihād claim to live in, under the shadow of the *munāfiqīn* and *murtaddīn* from amongst the slaves of the Crusaders!

The Soviets retreated from Afghānistān... and the Mujāhidīn returned victoriously to their home lands, narrating to their brothers the story of true freedom... the freedom of Islāmīc glory and honour... a freedom which is void of any ‘*Ubbūdiyyah*’ (slavery, servitude) to other than the Lord of Mankind... a true story...

Here, the Christians took notice of the danger of these “*Jihādī* circles”, and of the danger it posed to their personal interests. So they called upon their slaves – who were sitting on the thrones of the countries of Islām – to put a stop to these “terrorist gatherings”... Accordingly, there were imprisonments, indictments, and harassments which extended to anyone who would narrate the living image of the land of glory and dignity to the Muslim masses, who were astonished by the stories of bravery, courage, and Divine Miracles!

Detentions... imprisonments... allegations... jails... tortures... transgressions... what sin did these men commit?

There sin was only one, and none other: They had left that land of glory and returned back to the land of slavery and regret...

The leader of the preachers of his era, ‘Azzām, was assassinated, may Allāh have mercy upon him – and there remained in Afghānistān a group of men who were led by a student of that genius<sup>3</sup>... So he began to glance to his right, and to his left, and he studied the situation, and grasped comprehension over it so quickly that it amazed every bystander... Thus, he called out to the *Ummah*:

*“Come towards honour, come towards glory! Come towards Gardens, the width of which is that of the heavens and the earth. Come to the Jihād... Come to the Jihād! Al-Jihād, O Ummah of Muhammad! Al-Jihād...”*

This courageous lion looked towards the state of the *Ummah*, and saw that its afflictions and its humiliations were only due to its abandonment of the commandments of its Lord, and due to its dislike of sacrificing for the sake of its *Dīn*. And how could this not have been the case, when he had memorized the words of its Messenger (peace and blessings be upon him):

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<sup>2</sup> **Trans. Note:** Honour, glory, pride, dignity.

<sup>3</sup> **Trans. Note:** i.e. Usāmah ibn Muhammad ibn Lādin (may Allāh preserve him)

*“When people are stingy with the dinār and the dirham, and conduct transactions by Al-Ṭinah (a type of usury (interest) that involves selling something as a debt for a greater price, then buying it back for a lesser price), and follow the tails of cows (meaning when they become preoccupied with agriculture and breeding animals), and abandon Al-Jihād in the Path of Allāh: then Allāh will establish over them a disgrace which He will not remove until they return back to their Dīn.”<sup>4</sup>*

The *Ummah* emerged victorious over the Soviets, and the Jewish-Christian Media did not lose any time to call to the filthy philosophy of: “the unchallenged superpower”! *“There is no strength or might in the world, except America; no power except with America; no authority or rule, except with America’s permission!!”* And mankind actually believed this, and they were about to submit and accept this silly claim – when all of a sudden... the lion struck America in its legs, with the bombings in Africa (the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania). Thus, did he force America to recalculate, and it concluded that it had a *Nidd* (rival) in the earth who could not be taken lightly...

The Mujāhidīn attempted to awaken the Muslims to free themselves from the mentality of defeatism, from the “inferior complex” syndrome, from the attitude of *‘Ubudīyyah* (slavery, servitude) to other than Allāh...

Arguments and debates broke out between the Mujāhidīn and the rest of the *Ummah* in general... an argument which reminds us of the argument of the Children of Isrā’īl with Mūsā (peace be upon him)...

The Mujāhidīn said: Set your determinations firm, and place your trust in Allāh, and take up arms to confront America, and do not abandon this Jihād, lest you become regretful, for verily, the earth belongs to Allāh Alone! ***“O my people! Enter the holy land (Palestine) which Allāh has assigned to you, and turn not back (in flight), for then will you be overthrown, to your own ruin.”*** [*Al-Mā’idah*: 21]

Those who opposed them, said: We aren’t capable! America is a superpower, and it has such weapons and technology which we are incapable of confronting! ***“They said: O Mūsā! In this land are a people of exceeding strength! We shall never enter it, till they leave it; when they leave, then we will enter.”*** [*Al-Mā’idah*: 22]

The *Mu’minūn* from amongst the Mujāhidīn, and those whose breasts were illuminated by *īmān* from amongst the Muslims, said: We do not have to do anything, except sacrifice, and take the means and steps. And Victory is but from Allāh, so let’s put our trust in him! ***“(But) among (their) Allāh-fearing men were two on whom Allāh had bestowed His grace: They said: Assault them through the gate, for when you are in, victory will be yours - And on Allāh put your trust if you are truly Believers.”*** [*Al-Mā’idah*: 23]

But those who were used to drinking humiliation and slavery, and were addicted to submitting and surrendering to men – they could not see the Divine Will behind it, and their souls were not certain of the Promise of Allāh, so they said: We will never fight against America! Nay, we will sit here comfortably – You go yourselves if you want to! ***“They said:***

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<sup>4</sup> **Trans. Note:** Narrated by Abū Dāwūd, and declared *Hasan* by Al-Albānī in *Sahīh Al-Jāmi’* (688).

***O Mūsā! We shall never enter it as long as they are there. So go you and your Lord, and fight you two; we will be sitting right here.*** [Al-Mā'idah: 24]

So the Mujāhidūn realized the reality of the situation, and the extant of the blindness caused by the mindset of slavery and surrendering to men in the hearts of many of mankind. So they set firm their lofty determinations, and they announced that they had placed their complete trust in Allāh. ***“He said: O my Lord! I have power only over myself and my brother, so separate us from these Fāsiqūn (rebellious and disobedient to Allāh) people!”*** [Al-Mā'idah: 25]

The Mujāhidīn wanted to remind the Muslims of the Promise of Allāh, so they announced it as Mūsā (peace be upon him) announced it. ***“Mūsā said to his people: Seek help in Allāh, and patiently endure, for the earth belongs to Allāh. He gives it as a heritage to whom He wills of His slaves; and the final outcome is in favour of the Allāh-fearing.”*** [Al-A'rāf: 128]

But the reluctant hecklers - those who aren't good for anything other than complaining, sitting behind, and treachery - did not understand the reality of the matter. They thought it to be something worldly and material only, thinking that Allāh – Glorified and Lofty is He – has nothing to do with it. So they just complained. ***“They said: We have had (nothing but) trouble, both before and after you came to us.”*** [Al-A'rāf: 129]

Yes, just like that! Without any sense of shame whatsoever! These dead souls who had sold themselves into slavery and humiliation to other men – truly, they are not good at anything except this. Their intellects and their aspirations do not rise above that level! Their minds cannot comprehend the meaning of struggle and sacrifice! Just like that, they wait for results from others, and they complain and grumble at everything, even at their own selves!

The attacks on the American embassies were not enough to awaken the masses of the *Ummah* with the strength of *Īmān* which envelopes the hearts... So the Mujāhidīn set their determinations firm once more – in directing another blow against the *Tāghūt* country, so that they could clearly expose to the Muslim masses, the crumbling weakness of *kufr*, and the strength of the *'Aqīdah* of *Tawhīd*... Thus came the attacks on New York and Washington...

The entire world witnessed the symbols of America fall down right before of their eyes, in a unique battle which had never before been witnessed in history... Attacks coming from the skies, with planes with 19 men from amongst the Mujāhidīn in them... causing a heavy slaughter against America, shoving its nose into the dirt, tearing apart its image in the world...

Thus, many from amongst mankind became certain, after that Blessed Expedition, of the fragility of this tiny country of *kufr* known as America, and the overwhelming power of *Īmān*... At that moment, many Muslims freed – liberated – themselves from the leash of slavery, subjugation, and self-defeatism... This is when many Muslims became certain, that indeed, Allāh is more powerful than America, and that Allāh is above America, and that Allāh will subjugate America whenever He wishes.

That which the U.S.S.R., Europe, China, Japan, and all the nations of the world all together had failed to accomplish – was done by merely 19 men from the *Ummah* of Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)!

Those blessed attacks were the peak of the astuteness and wisdom of the *Shaykh* of the Mujāhidīn, the Lion of Islām – may Allāh protect him and assist him. The intended goal behind the attacks was not to cause a heavy slaughter in the enemy ranks. Rather, the intended goal was to liberate the minds of mankind, and to direct their hearts in the correct direction. The attacks were more of a proclamation of *‘Aqīdah* rather than military strikes.

Finally America came to realize the goal behind the attacks of the Mujāhidīn – but it was too late! Three hundred years of the *kuffār* planting the belief of humiliation and degradation into the hearts of the Muslims... three hundred years of the *kuffār* subduing the minds of the Muslims, and enforcing upon them the “inferior complex” syndrome... and in a matter of seconds, the Mujāhidūn flattened the work of three generations!

America did not have any option other than to flex its muscles and show its might, in order to regain its previous image in the eyes of mankind, which the Mujāhidūn had struck at with their lethal paws, ripping it apart in the most brutal manner!

Fighter jets took off... war vehicles were sent... trans-continental missiles... “bunker-busting” bombs... tanks... satellites... America came out with all its capabilities and its iron, to reaffirm itself in front of mankind, that it had not ceased being the “superpower” – that it was still their “*lord, most high*”... It came out with the mentality of the Pharaoh of this *Ummah*, the Master of the Ignorant, “Abū Jahl”; when he had said, “*Wallāhi, we will not return until we have given them a Badr also, and we shall stay over for three nights, we shall slaughter the camels, and we shall feast on food, and we shall drink wine, and our ladies shall dance and sing, and all the ‘Arabs shall bear about us and our journey and our celebration, and forever dread us they shall!!*” This was exactly the mentality of Bush and the American Regime!

America called upon its slaves in our lands to the necessity of “patching up” its torn image in the minds of the Muslims... ‘It is not permissible to follow anyone other than America! It is not permissible to believe that anyone has power and control other than America! O rulers of the Muslim lands: Return the *‘Aqīdah* of humiliation and weakness back into the hearts and minds of the Muslims!’

And upon that, the rulers called upon their puppets who were dressed up in the garments of the *Shari’ah* – they commanded them to think and come up with ideas of how to – with “Islāmic reasons” – instil the spirit of ‘following America’ into the hearts of the Muslims!

And although it was obvious; yet, to many, it seemed like a complicated equation which they couldn’t quite grasp... it was a scheme which was employed by the rulers, by silencing the sincere and truthful *‘Ulamā*, and then by bringing out and paying “educated religious men”, who were slaves of gluttony – throwing them some meat to chew on – to come onto the media scene, and then instilling into the minds of the Muslims the blind following of and complete submission to the rulers, by means of these “religious men”... These men were merely urinating on the Divine Texts and lying against the Lord of Mankind... and when this was instilled into the minds of the Muslim masses, the rulers announced that they had

not ever declared any Jihād! And that they were the friends of America, and that they had with America a warm and lovely relationship!

And some of the by-products in the process were:

“The Mujāhidīn are destructive *Khawārij*! The Jihād which is *Fardh ‘Ayn* upon the *Ummah* is a *fitnah*! Killing a *kaḥfīr* who has no covenant whatsoever in the lands of the Muslims, is an act of *fasād* (evil corruption) in the *Dīn*! And the *murtadd* can be a legitimate authority over the Muslims!”

*The minds of the Muslims must be “neutralized” and made to submit to the popes of the regimes’ churches...*  
“... for verily, they do not speak from their own desires, it is but a revelation revealed, taught to them by those intense in Crusading strength, and global Zionism!!”

These fruitless deceptions – which were incinerated by the lightning pens of the Mujāhidīn – were not enough for America. Nay, America (like its colonial predecessors) also invaded Afghānistān, and killed and pillaged, all the while showing off all of its bombs, jets, planes, and all of its forces, spreading it all around in the radio, the newspapers, and TV channels – so that it could reiterate itself in front of the entire world, that its reign and its might had not ceased... It then invaded ‘Irāq, and displayed everything, and showed all they could on the TV screens, of their weapons, and of the destruction of the people who disobeyed them, and how they were then left devastated... in order to remove any shadow of doubt in the Divinity of America! It announced, and it continues to announce, its intention to destroy many other countries, and that it will occupy them – all to prove to the world: that its hand is not like the hand of any other force (there is no similitude or comparison!), and that it alone has risen above the throne of the earth! In short, America wanted to tell the world: **“I am your lord, most high!”** [*An-Nāẓi’āt*: 24] <sup>5</sup>

But the Mujāhidīn were already prepared for this “Abū Jahlic” arrogance, so they slowly lured America into coming inside Afghānistān, and into ‘Irāq – so that the “attack and retreat” guerrilla warfare could begin, such attacks which the occupiers and military experts were incapable of conceiving - ignorant of where, when, and how the next attack would take place... Thus America fell into a horrific trap in which its face was blackened, and its fragility was made apparent before all...

America brandished its fist in front of all the nations and governments of the world, to regain its respect and fear, by means of the media, and their broadcasts, and their writings... while the Mujāhidīn in ‘Irāq and Afghānistān wipe away all of what is written by the *munāfiqīn*; and they invalidate, through their activities and operations, all of that which is propagated by the media – all the while using the latest technological equipment made by man! <sup>6</sup>

Verily, it is a battle of ‘*Aqīdah*...

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<sup>5</sup> **Trans. Note:** The statement of Pharaoh, as mentioned in that Verse.

<sup>6</sup> **Trans. Note:** A small example of this, is that now, it is possible to download and watch especially formatted Jihādī videos to be viewed and distributed on mobile telephones, including “*Badr Ar-Riyādh*”!



A battle to revive the *Ummah* anew...

A battle to recover the buried honour...

A battle to extinguish humiliation, weakness, and inferiority from the hearts and minds of the youth of the Islāmic Nation...

It is the battle of Ibrāhīm against the idols...

The battle of the *Ummah* of Muhammad against Hubal...

It is a battle of refusing to be *‘Ibād* (slaves) of other than the Lord of Mankind...

Indeed, it is the ancient and historical battle between the Forces of Ar-Rahmān, and the forces of Shaytān...

Indeed, it is a battle between *Yaqīn* (firm certainty) and wavering hesitation...

Indeed, it is the battle of Sincere Faith (*Al-Īmān Al-Khālīs*) against the party of *munāfiqīn*...

A battle led by the Believers...

***“And verily, Our Word has gone forth before (this) for Our slaves, the Messengers; that they would certainly be made triumphant, and that Our forces - they surely would be the conquerors.”*** [*As-Saffāt*: 171-173]

***“And Allāh has full power and control over His Affairs, but most of men know not.”***  
[*Yūsuf*: 21]

Yes, truly... they know not... and Allāh knows best.

*Wa SallAllāhu ‘Alā Nabīyyinā Muhammad, wa ‘Alā Ālihi wa Sabbīhi Ajma’in*

Written by an assistant of the Jihād and the Mujāhidīn,  
– Husayn ibn Mahmūd; 13<sup>th</sup> of Shawwāl, 1424 H